

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion to instruct offered by the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR).

The motion was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the Chair appoints the following conferees:

Messrs. BONILLA, WALSH, KINGSTON, NETHERCUTT, LATHAM, Mrs. EMERSON, Messrs. GOODE, LAHOOD, YOUNG of Florida, Ms. KAPTUR, Ms. DELAURO, and Messrs. HINCHEY, FARR of California, BOYD, and OBEY.

There was no objection.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Mr. Monahan, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed without amendment a bill of the House of the following title:

H.R. 2925. An act to amend the Reclamation Recreation Management Act of 1992 in order to provide for the security of dams, facilities, and resources under the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Reclamation.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12 of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 43 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

□ 1550

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. LATOURETTE) at 3 o'clock and 50 minutes p.m.

WAIVING POINTS OF ORDER AGAINST CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 2647, LEGISLATIVE BRANCH APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2002

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 273 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 273

Resolved, That upon adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to consider the conference report to accompany the bill (H.R. 2647) making appropriations for the Legislative Branch for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2002, and for other purposes. All points of order against the conference report and against its consideration are waived. The conference report shall be considered as read.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Texas (Mr. SESSIONS) is recognized for 1 hour.

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, for purposes of debate only, I yield the cus-

tomary 30 minutes to my friend, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. HALL), pending which I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, House Resolution 273 is a standard rule waiving all points of order against the conference report, and provides for consideration of the conference report to accompany H.R. 2647, the fiscal year 2002 legislative branch appropriations bill.

The conference report provides yet another example of a carefully crafted bill from the Committee on Appropriations that balances fiscal discipline with the true needs of our first branch of government, the legislative branch. This legislation represents a responsible increase in overall spending of 4.6 percent.

I would like to also commend the gentleman from North Carolina (Chairman TAYLOR), the ranking member, the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. MORAN), and other members of the Committee on Appropriations for their hard work on what is truly a noncontroversial conference report, and for maintaining the position established by the House in almost every instance.

Mr. Speaker, the legislative branch appropriations conference report ensures that the diverse funding needs of this institution are met, from legislative work to security to tourism.

Specifically, this bill funds congressional operations for the House of Representatives, including our staffs and employees. It addresses the needs of the United States Capitol Police, and continues to support their efforts to modernize as they perform essential security functions for the protections of not just Members of Congress and our staffs, but for the millions of visitors who come to our seat of government every year.

This bill includes important funding to hire additional new officers, and provides needed funds to bring their salaries in line with other Federal law enforcement agencies.

I would like to take a minute to express my personal gratitude to the men and women of the United States Capitol Police for their tireless efforts during this time of war.

Day after day, regardless of the hour, truly in rain and shine, these men and women faithfully carry out the duties which ensure the safety and security for all of us who live, work and visit our Nation's Capital. Their dedication, professionalism, and seemingly endless hours of service to ensure our security have not gone without notice and are most appreciated.

Mr. Speaker, this conference report also provides for the needs of the Architect of the Capitol, including the various operations and maintenance activities under his jurisdiction for the Capitol, House office buildings and the surrounding grounds, and including an additional \$70 million for needed House and Senate office space at the new Capitol Visitor's Center.

In addition, it funds the needs of the invaluable but often behind-the-scenes

work performed by the Congressional Budget Office, the Government Printing Office, and the General Accounting Office.

The conference agreement also provides funding for the Library of Congress and for the Congressional Research Service, including the employees who collectively help us and our staff make sense of the many complex issues we face every day.

Mr. Speaker, this conference report maintains the House-passed measures aimed to help meet the needs of an ever-changing and dynamic workplace. It helps this institution keep pace as an employer, including a monthly transit benefit, and makes modest infrastructure changes to make cycling to work more appealing; that is, as in riding a bike cycling. These transit benefits will help reduce demand on the already-limited parking, and help reduce traffic congestion.

In addition, the conference report calls for a study of options for a self-sustaining staff fitness center.

Finally, the conference report recognizes our need to become more environmentally friendly and efficient in reusing and recycling our waste by directing a review of the current recycling program, identifying ways to improve the program, establishing criteria for measuring compliance, and setting reasonable milestones for increasing the amount of recycled material.

Mr. Speaker, this is a good conference report and deserves our support. I urge all of my colleagues to support this straightforward rule, as well as the underlying noncontroversial legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. HALL of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, this rule allows for the consideration of the conference report on the legislative branch appropriations bill for fiscal year 2002, and it waives all points of order.

The bill appropriates money for the operations of the House and Senate and the maintenance of the Capitol complex. It also funds legislative branch agencies that support Congress, including the Library of Congress, the Congressional Budget Office, and the General Accounting Office.

In the aftermath of September 11, the American people I think have found increased confidence in the Federal Government and Congress in particular, and I believe that the confidence is well-founded.

The men and women who serve as Members of Congress, and I do not speak of myself, but I speak of my colleagues, are an extraordinary group of dedicated individuals. They are served by a corps of talented and hard-working staff, and I am very proud to serve with them.

Representative democracy is never easy, and it is even more difficult in